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10/635,507

08/07/2003

Koichi Uezono

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06/28/2004

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1940 DUKE STREET  
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314

EXAMINER

LE, THANH TAM T

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2839

DATE MAILED: 06/28/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/635,507

Applicant(s)

UEZONO, KOICHI

Examiner

Thanh-Tam T. Le

Art Unit

2839

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 August 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 07 August 2003 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 8/7/03.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Drawings***

1. Figures 1A, 1B and 2 should be designated by a legend such as --Prior Art-- because only that which is old is illustrated. See MPEP § 608.02(g). Corrected drawing sheets are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The replacement sheet(s) should be labeled "Replacement Sheet" in the page header (as per 37 CFR 1.84(c)) so as not to obstruct any portion of the drawing figures. If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

### ***Specification***

2. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

Page 11, line 4, "26" should be changed -- 25 --.

Appropriate correction is required.

### ***Claim Objections***

3. Claim 1, line 2-3, "... an electric wire arranged on both surfaces..." is confusing. It's has more than one electric wires.

Claim 1, lines 15 and 16, "the terminal portion" lacks an antecedent basis.

Claim 2, line 3, "a side" should be changed -- the side --.

Claim 2, line 4, "a surface" should be changed -- the surface --.

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Claim 4, "the terminal positions on the obverse surface and the reverse surface of the wiring board are set at the same positions" are confusing.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

5. Claims 1 and 3, insofar as that can be understood, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Yamane et al. (6,494,723).

Yamane et al., figures 1 and 6A-6B, disclose an electric connection box comprising:

- a wiring board (16) having a plurality of electric wires (15) arranged on both surfaces of an obverse surface and a reverse surface;
- an obverse cover (9A) arranged on the obverse surface of the wiring board and having a first connector cavity;
- a reverse cover (9B) arranged on the reverse surface of the wiring board and having a second connector cavity; and

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- a press contact terminal (20) having a press contact edge portion (20a) pressed onto the electric wire on a tab portion (20) erected in the first connector cavity;

wherein the press contact terminal presses the press contact edge portion onto the electric wire from a side where the electric wire is arranged, thereby selectively erecting a terminal portion on a surface having the electric wire arranged thereon.

Regarding claim 3, the press contact edge portion is arranged at right angle to the terminal portion.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claims 2 and 4, insofar as that can be understood, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamane et al. (6,447,325) in view of Yamane et al. (6,494,723).

Regarding claim 2, Yamane et al. ('325) disclose the instant claimed invention as described above except for the press contact terminal presses the press contact edge portion thereby erecting the terminal portion on both surfaces of the wiring board.

Yamane et al. ('723), figure 11, disclose a terminal (1030) having a connection portion (1032) and a lead portion (1033), which read on the press contact terminal

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presses the press contact edge portion thereby erecting the terminal portion on both surfaces of the wiring board. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify ('325) to have the terminal as taught by Yamane et al. ('723), in order to have an electrical connection between the wire and the circuit board.

Regarding claim 4, Yamane et al. ('325) disclose the instant claimed invention as described above except for the terminal positions on the obverse surface and the reverse surface of the wiring board are set at the same positions.

Yamane et al. ('723), figure 11, disclose a terminal 1030 which read on the terminal positions on the obverse surface and the reverse surface of the wiring board are set at the same positions. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify ('325) to have the terminal as taught by Yamane et al. ('723), in order to have an electrical connection between the wire and the circuit board.

### ***Conclusion***

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thanh-Tam T. Le whose telephone number is 571-272-2094. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30-5:00.

9. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lynn Feild can be reached on 571-272-2092. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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10. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

TL.  
06/18/04.

  
T. Le